Decline in industrial growth rate

1263. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial growth has been going down steeply, month to month during 1997-98; if so, the details of the growth records during each month compared to the corresponding month last year;

(b) the reasons for the low growth rate; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the growth?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) The details of the month over month industrial growth rates from April, 1996 to March 1998 are given in the following table.

Month-wise Overall Growth Rates

Month	1996-97	1997-98
April	11.1	7.4
May	12.5	4.2
June	12.5	4.5
July	9.5	6.6
August	9.6	3.1
September	5.1	5.8
October	10.1	1.8
November	4.0	7.9
December	5.6	3.1
January	3.1	4.5
February	3.4	2.8
March	2.1	−0.7

(b) The deceleration in industrial growth is perceived to be the cumulative effect of many macro factors, which include, subdued export growth, slow down in investment and sluggishness in demand.

(c) The mid term reviews were conducted to identify the areas of concern. As a consequence, certain initiatives were taken. The recently announced Union Budget 1998-99 which has given fiscal concessions in excise and custom duties and provided greater investment in infrastructure sector, is expected to improve the climate for industrial investment and lead to increased growth. Dialogue will continue with industry associations to identify measures to stimulate growth.

उत्तर प्रदेश में उद्योग-रहित जिलों की संख्या

1264. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के अनेक जिले अब भी उद्योग शून्य जिलों की श्रेणी में शामिल है;

(ख) क्या इसमें उत्तरांचल के अधिकांश ऐसे जिले शामिल है जो पर्वतीय है तथा वायु प्रदुषण से मुक्त है;

(ग) क्या सरकार इन क्षेत्रों में प्राथमिकता आधार पर साफ्टवेयर या अन्य इलैक्ट्रोनिक्स उद्योग स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक; यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) और (ख) वित्त मंत्रालय (राजस्व विभाग) ने भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण भाग-2, खण्ड-2 में प्रकाशित दिनांक 7 अक्तूबर, 97 की अधिसूचना संख्या का॰ आ॰ 714 (अ) के तहत आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 (1961) का 43 के तहत कर रियायतों की मंजूरी के लिए 53 श्रेणी "क" औद्योगिक रूप से पिछड़े जिले तथा 70 श्रेणी "ख" औद्योगिक रूप से पिछड़े जिले निर्धारित किये हैं। उक्त सूची में उत्तर प्रदेश के 34 जिले शामिल हैं।

(ग) और (घ) उत्तरांचल साफ्टवेयर इलैक्ट्रोनिक के लिए कोई विशिष्ट केन्द्र स्थापित करने हेतु कोई विशेष प्रस्ताव नहीं है। फिर भी, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के अधीन डिलट्रान, उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में साफ्टवेयर तथा इलैक्ट्रोनिक उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने में उत्प्रेरक भूमिका अदा करता है।

Sickness in Dunlop Tyre Company

1265. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) since when, the Dunlop Tyre Company is lying sick;

(b) whether a representation has been received from the workers and employees of the company pressing for its revival;

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in this behalf in order to protect the living and the interests of thousands of workers and employees; and

(d) whether any concrete proposal has been received from the West bengal Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (b) The workers of the Dunlop India Ltd. had approached the Government of West Bengal and Government of India alleging mis-management of the company.

On the basis of the complaint received from the workers of the company, the Department of Company Affairs had inspected the Book of Accounts under Section 209 of the Companies Act which have revealed violations of the several sections of the Companies Act. The Central Government have moved the Company Law Board for appointment of Government Directors of the Board of the Company.

The management of the Dunlop India Ltd. had approached BIFR for determination of measures under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Intir-alia, the Government of West Bengal had submitted its point of view in the matter to the BIFR during its hearing on 31.3.98.

In addition, the Government of West Bengal had also suggested setting up of a Committee of Investigation under Section 15 of the Industrial Development and Regulation Act. This has, however, not been found feasible.

Dunlop Tyre Company

1266. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Dunlop Tyre Company is lying sick for a considerable period of time resulting in extreme hardship for the employees;

(b) what steps have Government taken to arrange for its early revival so as to protect the interests of its employees;

(c) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction have recommended any ways and means for its revival;

(d) whether any specific request has been made by the Government to the Industrial Development Bank of India in this behalf; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and response of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Government have received information alleging mis-management of Dunlop India Limited, and that the company had suspended its operations in West Bengal on 8.2.98 and in Tamil Nadu on 9.2.98.

(b) on the basis of the complaint received from the workers of the company, the Department of Company Affairs have initiated action under the provisions of the Companies Act which have revealed violations of the relevant provisions of the Act. Based on these findings, Government have moved the Company Law Board for appointment of Government Directors on the Board of the company, Separately, the Registrar of Companies has also filed prosecution for violations of the Companies Act on the basis of the said inspection.

(c) to (e) The management of the Dunlop India Ltd. had approached BIFR for determination of measures under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. Inter-alia, the Government of West Bengal had submitted its point of view in the matter to the BIFR during its hearing on 31.3.98. BIFR had directed Industrial Devleopment Bank of India (IDBI as operating agency under Section 16(2) of the Act to enquire into the accounts of the company and submit its report within